JEAN T. BEAR, HEAD
VIRGINIA STATE LIBRARY
RICHMOND, VA. 23219

TIMES-VIRGINIAN

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

1 SECTION - 12 PAGES

VOLUME 89-NUMBER 1 | APPOMATTOX, (VA.)-TIMES-VIRGINIAN-JANUARY 3, 1980 | SINGLE COPY PRICE - 20c

Father Darkleaf

by
Calvin Robinson

And now we come to nineteen eighty,
With problems difficult and weighty;
But none so awesome or so rough,
To make Uncle Samuel cry
"Enough."

Appomattox had one of its better Christmas Seasons. No snow, but everything else to make us proud. Special church programs were featured and there were countless family gatherings. Business was excellent. Inventory time now and we hope you come out in good shape, eager to help keep "Appomattox A Growing Town and County" both in the new year and the new decade.

* * *

I have been privileged to meet the new owners and manager of The Times-Virginian and join in welcoming them to Appomattox. And may I pay tribute to W. Lloyd Vaughan and family for their long and successful service. And to the entire staff, old and new. This newspaper was established in 1892 and has long been a vital factor in the area.

* * *

On approaching the Town of Appomattox one of the first things to be seen is the towering water tank just off Confederate Blvd. and the words painted on it....."Historic Appomattox." Let us not forget that Appomattox stands for what Charles Francis Adams called "the finest single episode in American History" and may we pass along the name unshorn, matching its past with new achievements of progress.

* * *

Thanks to Mrs. John Hickey, an Evergreen reader, for phoning me her appreciation for an item about Wyoming in our last column. She moved here three years ago and is from Basin, Wyoming.

* * *

Appomattox was featured on two TV programs during the holidays. "A Civil War Christmas" showed activities at the local National Park Service and a program on PM Magazine had an Appomattox feature. And Bill Jamerson and Scott Dawson were officials in the Sun Bowl football classic at El Paso. Jamerson and Dawson are Atlantic Coast Conference officials.

* * *

Two questions for the new year . . . Who is the oldest person in Appomattox County and the first baby of 1980.

* * *

Normally the bird feeder opposite my living room window is filled with wildbird seed only when snow makes it tough for birds to find something to eat. But Christmas Day is somehting special so early Christmas Day I filled the feeder and soon a tiny chickadee arrived and had dinner all day. Other brids came and went but the chickadee lingered on.

* * *

Sorry to hear that The Iron Worker Magazine has ceased publication. Over the years it carried splendid articles about Appomattox, including the outstanding Autumn 1969 issue featuring Appomattox's famous five-string banjo inventor, Joe Sweeney.

* * *

Heavens to Betsy, more young men these days are growing whiskers! Had you noticed? I was in a large crowd recently and did not recognize some fellows who were sporting beards.

* * *

"O Wind, If Winter Comes" it brings with it seed and nursery catalogs. Received two within the week and am making up a trial list of what to plant in my modest garden. I predict that Appomattox will have lots of gardeners this year. On a scale of one to ten my score as a gardener is about three, but will try again.

Thanks for reading and seeya next week.

Sherrod named editor

Bill Sherrod, a 25-year-old Richmond native, has been named editor and general manager of the **Times-Virginian**, according to George N. McMath, president of Atlantic Publications, Inc.

Sherrod assumed his duties as editor Dec. 27, when former editor-publisher Lloyd Vaughan sold the paper to Atlantic Publications.

Sherrod, a 1977 graduate of Randolph-Macon College, comes to the **Times-Virginian** after working two years on the **Delaware Coast Press**, a weekly newspaper owned by Atlantic Publications in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

Named advertising manager for the **Times-Virginian** is Frances Paulette, of near Evergreen, according to Sherrod.

Paulette has served as an advertising representative and writes a column for the paper. She joined the paper full time in 1975.

A native of Appomattox, she was married to the late Emmitt W. Paulette and has three children, Mrs. Chris P. Mott, Bruce H. Paulette, and Emmitt W. Paulette Jr.

Beck Hudson, of Transco Village on Route 2, has been named production manager of the paper, and will assist Sherrod in writing news stories for the paper.

Hudson has been with the paper more than 20 years, serving in the capacity of news editor.

A native of Appomattox, she is married to Lloyd Hudson and has one daughter, Pat.

Melaine Fraley will continue her duties as receptionist at the paper. She will also handle classified advertising.

A native of Narrows, Va., she currently lives in Falling River Acres with her husband Charles. They have four children, Charles Fraley III, Lea Beth Bowers, Marie Fraley, and Joe Fraley.

Sherrod noted that Sarah Vaughan, Shelby Cutshall and Peggy Romanac will continue working in the composition shop at the paper.

Sherrod said the **Times-Virginian** will continue to strive to provide the type of community service rendered in the past.

"We will continue to pursue the ideals of community journalism," he said, "striving to measure the pulse of the growing community of Appomattox."

Bill Sherrod, editor and general manager of the Times-Virginian, left, looks on as W. Lloyd Vaughan shakes hands with George McMath, president of Atlantic Publications, Inc., upon sale of the Times-Virginian to Atlantic Publications.

County bridge-improvement bids to be reviewed

Construction of a 128-foot-long, two-lane bridge on secondary road 605 in Appomattox is one of 13 proposed projects for which bids will be received by the state highway department Jan. 15 in Richmond.

The bridge project is part of a two-year, $7 million road-improvement program authorized by the 1979 General Assembly, along with legislation aimed at curbing future road and bridge damage by heavy traffic, according to the state Department of Highways and Transportation.

The two-lane bridge proposed for Appomattox will be constructed on an improved alignment, to replace an inadequate bridge over Wreck Island Creek near Beckham.

Contracts have been awarded already for replacement or improvement of 28 of 113 bridges included in the state's modernization program. Bids have been received on three other bridges and are being considered for award.

Bids will be taken for other proposed bridge improvement projects in Southhampton County, the City of Roanoke, Prince George County and the city of Petersburg, Botetourt County, the town of Christiansburg, the city of Virginia Beach, Stafford County, Halifax County, Fairfax County, Wise County, the Fredericksburg District, and the Suffolk District.

School board to meet January 9

The Appomattox County School Board will meet in regular session Wednesday, January 9, at 3:00 p.m. in the school board office.

Items on the agenda will include reading and approval of minutes, consideration of special education plan for 1980-81 session, consideration of contract with VEPCO for electrical service, salary proposal by Appomattox Education Association for 1980-81 session, and consideration of a revised school board policy concerning maternity leave.

Rabies vaccinations planned in county

Rabies vaccinations for dogs in Appomattox County will be offered this month, according to W. M. Burger, Jr., D.V.M., of the Appomattox Animal Hospital.

A certificate of vacciantion is required by state law before a dog can be licensed, according to Burger. The vaccination fee is $3 for each dog.

Vaccinations will be given at the Appomattox Animal Hospital from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 9 and Jan. 23.

Vaccinations will be offered Jan. 16 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Pamplin Fire House, and from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Jimmy's Grocery Store in Red House.

Dinner honors retiring supervisors

Dr. S. R. Lawson, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, is shown presenting certificates of appreciation to retiring board members, J. M. Cobb, Jr. and Otho Martin, Jr.

Red House family featured on TV special

Red House farmer James Bennett and his family approach a television camera filming for Virginia Digest, a television special produced by the VPI office of educational communications, to be aired this Sunday (Jan. 6) at noon on WDBJ-TV, Channel 7. The special focuses on the family -farm-versus-large-agricultural-operations conflict. Bennett hopes his Southside Virginia farm, Knoll Crest, will stay in his family, and in the television special talks about some of the challenges and opportunities facing he and his family.

Council approves $292,379.00 budget for 1980

By BECK HUDSON

The Appomattox Town Council adopted the town budget for 1980 in the amount of $292,379.00, in a recessed meeting held at 10:00 a.m. Monday.

The newly adopted budget was effective January 1.

The budget as adoped by council reflects an increase of $19,301.00 over the 1979 budget, which totaled $273,078.00.

Reflected in the budget is $19,000.00 expense for Appomattox County Public Schools electric charges. This amount is the same as in the budget in 1979, but is expected to go up with VEPCO's rate increase July 1, 1980. This item is reimbursable to the Town of Appomattox and the check from the Appomattox County School Board will be drawn payable directly to VEPCO.

In the 1980 budget, $200,379.00 was approved for expenditures for the general fund, as compared to $183,494.00 in the 1979 budget; $21,000.00 was approved for expenditures for the sewer fund, as compared to a total of $17,754.00 in 1979; and $71,000.00 was approved for the water fund. This amount compares to the total of $66,830.00 in the 1979 budget.

Of the $200,379.00 approved and allocated for the general fund, $67,549.00 will go for administrative expenses, an increase of $9,812.00 over the amount budgeted in 1979; $45,852.00 goes to the police department as compared to the total of $42,628.00 budgeted in 1979; $8,381.00 goes for expenses of the fire department in the 1980 budget as compared to the $8,235.00 allocated in the 1979 budget; the sanitation department was allocated $21,731.00 for 1980 as compared to a total of $19,167.00 budgeted last year; and the street department was allocated a total of $26,875.00 for expenses in the 1980 budget, as compared to $32,807.00 budgeted in 1979.

Revenue-sharing money is anticipated to be $22,191.00 in 1980 and council approved the revenue-sharing money, as advertised in the **Times-Virginian** in previous articles.

In other business, Appomattox Primary School requested flashing lights for school zone signs on both sides of the school on Ferguson Street. Only very young children attend this school and there has been a decided increase in the traffic flow on this street.

Council agreed to send a resolution to Mr. T. E. Pittman, resident engineer, Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation, asking that these signs be put up. The 25 mile-per-hour speed limit on this street has not been effective.

The Appomattox Town Council will meet in regular session Jan. 14, when items on the agenda not discussed at this meeting will be brought before council for action.

1979: events in Times-Virginian reviewed

By BECK HUDSON

As we think back to happenings in 1979, it was a relatively good year for Appomattox County and its citizens.

As always, along with the good things there were also problems, some easily solved, some still ahead of us.

Looking back, we found that effective Jan. 1, Charles F. P. Crawley, Appomattox County General District Court Judge since 1946, announced his retirement and on Jan. 23 he died after a brief illness, Judge Robert B. Spencer, Jr. was elected by the General Assembly to take over the Appomattox County General District Court bench Feb. 1. He also serves Buckingham and Cumberland counties, all three in the 10th Judicial District.

In late January, snow, sleet, and freezing rain for two days made driving hazardous and left hundreds of homes without electricity for days. Heavy ice on trees caused considerable damage to forestland and to property of private citizens.

Old man winter was still in control when a snow storm hit the area in mid-February and it seemed that one more snow storm would move in before the last one had time to melt.

In connection with an expansion program, Colonial Pipeline Company opened offices and a warehouse here to accomodate spreads 2 and 3, giving employment to many area residents. Colonial Pipeline is a common carrier, moving refined liquid petroleum products from oil refineries along the Louisiana - Texas Gulf Coast via 4,167 miles of pipe to 13 states in the South and on the East Coast.

Plans were launched in February for a $4.5 million expansion for Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center to a year-round Center. 4-H Camp, located in Appomattox County, has provided summer learning experiences for youth, 9 - 19, in 17 counties and two cities in the East Central Extension District since 1941, and is the only such facility within a 100-mile radius. Dr. C. G. O'Brien is the local fund raising chairman.

William A. Hunter was elected president of Farmers National Bank of Appomattox. He has been associated with this home-owned bank since 1952. Hunter replaced T. DeWitt Evans, who retired as president of the bank at the February board meeting.

A Cablevision Franchise was awarded to ARCO, Inc. of Pennsylvania by the Town of Appomattox. A few weeks later the County of Appomattox awarded a Cablevision Franchise to the same company.

Fitzhugh Lee Murphy, 93, retired president and chairman of the board of Farmers National Bank, died Apr. 19. He served on the board of directors from 1930-1971. He was president and chairman of the board for 34 years, until his retirement in 1971. He served for 13 years as a member of the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors. He was a retired salesman for M. W. Callaham & Sons Grocery Company, Lynchburg.

Town Government - In May the Town of Appomattox was caught in a vicious circle in its long quest for federal grant to pay for installation of water lines to its new "waterless" 1,000,000-gallon water storage tank. Council's application for a grant had been rejected 3 times. Council agreed to apply to HUD for a $151,000 grant to help purchase pipe for the water line to the water tank.

Things began to look up when in June the town was notified that it would receive a HUD grant in the amount of $151,000 to help purchase pipe to conncect the town's existing water system to the new one-million gallon water storage tank.

In June of 1979, the Town of Appomattox received a $1.4 million grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Water Control Board for a new regional wastewater facility. EPA and the State Water Control Board had mandated to the Town of Appomattox that they build a new regional wastewater facility. In addition to the grant, the town will have to come up with $500,000, 25 percent of the total cost of the facility. Council decided to hold a referendum in mid-August to let the citizens decide on this question. However, the referendum had to be abandoned in August when the town was notified that a Special Election set for Sept. 4 was not permissable under the State Statutes concerning Special Elections. The only possible date would be Nov. 6 in the General Election and the deadline for the grant application was Sept. 30. The town council had to make a decision, and after holding a Public Hearing, agreed to fund $800,000 for the Regional Waste Water Facility, cost of land acquisition, and easement.

County Government - At its March meeting, the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors decided to apply for a $125,000 federal grant that would help construct a new jail for the county. At its May meeting, the board withdrew its application for the federal grant even though the existing facility was top on the list of jails not up to state standards.

The State Board of Corrections closed the jail in mid-September after the state fire marshall said it did not comply with state standards, and currently the prisoners are being transported to the jail in Charlotte County, quite an expense to the county, according to board members. The board is still looking for a less expensive way to construct a new jail that will meet the basic state requirements. They voted in November to accept bids for the proposed 5,400 square foot facility. Bids should be received in April for the facility and it could cost in excess of $361,000.

At its June meeting, the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors approved a $4,682,816.00 budget for 1979 - 80.

In the Nov. 6 General Election, with 4643 registered voters in the county, only 1903 votes were cast.

Dr. S. R. Lawson, Horace W. Coleman, Jr., and J. Franklin Vaughan were elected to serve on the three-man Board of Supervisors. Lawson represents Southside District, Coleman represents Clover Hill District, and Vaughan represents Stonewall District. Coleman replaces J. M. Cobb, Jr. on the board and Vaughan replaces Otho W. Martin, Jr., Cobb and Martin chose not to seek reelection. All four county officers were unopposed in this election. W. Sam Kerr is Commonwealth's Attorney, J. E. "Gene" Richardson, is Appomattox County Sheriff, Commissioner of Revenue is Monte W. Mays, and Treasurer is Ida H. Campbell.

On June 9, Appomattox County High School awarded diplomas to 221 graduating seniors. The Class of 1979 was the largest ever to graduate from the local high school.

Scene of triple slaying July 23 in nearby Evergreen where three men were killed and one wounded in a shootout. Circle indicates one bullet hole that came through wall of house.

Dead were Bruce Steven Draper, 26, of Pottstown, Pa.; Steven P. Philgreen, 23, of Stone Mountain, Ga.; and Robert E. Deutsch, 30, of Atlanta, Ga. The lone survivor was James Michael Hardy, 24 of Stone Mountain, Ga. The four men, living in a farm house in Evergreen, were surveyors employed by American Engineers and Surveyors of Atlanta, working for Colonial Pipeline Company in Appomattox police said. The man surviving was not the person who started the shootout. Starting the shooting was one of the three men who was killed. A police spokesman said he had been having severe emotional problems for some time.

Approximately 100 county citizens came out to the public hearing Aug. 15 to discuss the proposed by-pass of Appomattox on U. S. 460, a project that will cost in excess of $13 million. The first contract for

Cont'd on Page 5

Ice was frequent visitor to Appomattox during the winter of 1979.

JAN